

# Firefighters entreat council

Department requests more personnel

BY SUSIE DICKSON  
STAFF WRITER

According to the Chapel Hill Fire Department, a lack of firefighters might be putting residents at risk.

The department raised the issue at a Chapel Hill Town Council budget workshop Wednesday night.

Tommy Gregory, president of the Chapel Hill Firefighters Association, said the department is usually about three to six firefighters short every time it responds to a call.

As most structure fires require multiple tasks, more firefighters would help prevent the chance of property loss.

When firefighters must choose between the lives of fire victims and minimizing property damage, "trade-offs must be made," Gregory said. "Rescue is always our first priority."

A lack of personnel also makes it harder for firefighters to do their jobs and increases the chance of injury.

Firefighters who spoke at the council's workshop complained of long shifts of as many as 24 hours straight, which compromises the safety of the workers in addition to residents.

Gregory also mentioned the immediate need for a full-time training officer.

Chapel Hill Fire Chief Dan Jones told the council in January that the department, with 66 firefighters now, needs an additional 18 firefighters and a full-time training officer.

Town staff will consider the department's requests as they formulate their recommended budget, which they plan to submit to the council by the end of April.

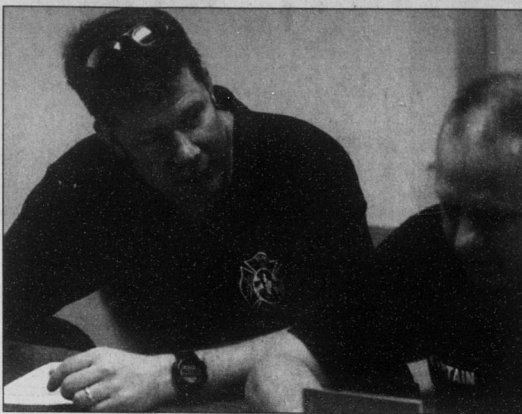
Council member Mark Kleinschmidt said the council is concerned about the department's lack of resources.

"I have every confidence that our firefighters are doing an extraordinary job right now," he said. "But I'd like to see if we can improve (the firefighters') working conditions."

In the budget process, officials will look at comparable towns' fire departments, and Kleinschmidt is worried that Chapel Hill's "doesn't compare well."

Kleinschmidt also said the department's repeated requests for a full-time training officer have not gone unnoticed by the council.

"(The request) seems to be high on the council's agenda," he said. "But there are a lot of things competing to be high on the agenda."



Firefighter Rob Pruitt (left) and Capt. Richard Buccu attend training on how to handle natural gas. The department says it needs more firefighters.

Mayor Kevin Foy acknowledged the department's need but emphasized the difficulty of the budget process.

Foy said Wednesday night that the process is an "extraordinary balancing act" and noted expenditures such as the news station that just opened.

Foy also mentioned "significant concern" about funding for the town's police department. "We haven't come to any conclusion," he said. "We have to be very careful

about the taxpayers' money."

Gregory said the department realizes there is a "certain level of risk tolerance" when the council is considering the department's requests.

However, he emphasized the department's dire need for more firefighters. Gregory said, "It is the firefighters who carry the burden of (the council's) decision."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

# Senate narrows list to 16 nominees for BOG

BY CLEVE R. WOOTSON JR.  
SENIOR WRITER

The N.C. Senate Higher Education Committee announced Thursday the final 16 people allowed to run for the body's eight appointments to the UNC-system Board of Governors.

The 34-member BOG recommends policy for the UNC system and its 16 constituent institutions to the N.C. General Assembly.

Thirty-two members are appointed and serve staggered four-year terms. Each chamber of the legislature appoints eight members every two years. A governor emeritus and a student representative also serve but do not have votes.

Before appointing BOG members, the bodies of the General Assembly must adopt specific rules for selecting new members. The rules must fit within the guidelines set by N.C. statutes, which include language about minority quotas.

In 2001, a group including former BOG member Walter Davis filed a lawsuit about the quota policy, which requires that at least four members be either female, of a minority race or from the minority political party in the legislature.

The BOG opted not to contest the lawsuit, and instead legislators formed a commission to study the BOG's structure and function.

The N.C. House, which was engaged in a lengthy and heated battle for its top post, has not yet approved rules for appointing members and therefore cannot start accepting nominations — a process the Senate started last week.

Under the rules the Senate adopted, its Higher Education Committee was charged with paring down the number of people eli-

## 16 VIE FOR 8 BOG POSTS

The following people will be considered by the N.C. Senate next week for appointment to the BOG. The Senate will appoint eight people.

- Brent Barringer
- R. Steve Bowden
- Freeman Edward Broadwell Jr.
- William Burns Jr.
- Betsy C. Cochran
- Larry T. Bagenhart
- John W. Davis III
- Peter D. Hans Key
- Adelaide Daniels
- Teena Smith Little
- Richard L. "Skip" Moore II
- Dr. Pamela R. Newsome
- Charles S. Norwood Jr.
- Vincent O. Otovo
- Estelle "Bunny" Sanders
- Ruth Dial Woods

gible to run from 20 to 16 members. "Some of the nominees withdrew," said Joyce Hodge, legislative assistant for the committee. "These (remaining) names will be reported out to the full Senate."

BOG members up for re-election include retired educator and banker William Burns, retired educator Ruth Dial Woods and board Vice Chairwoman Teena Little, who served in the N.C. Senate from 1994-96 before being appointed to the BOG in 1999.

"Having served in the Senate, a lot of those people I know personally," Little said. "I guess it's like anything else you run for. You talk to the people, let them know what you've done and hope for the best."

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

# SHS recognized for health-care service

Wall Street Journal released report

BY LAURA BOST  
STAFF WRITER

UNC's Student Health Service recently was ranked as one of the top collegiate health care providers in the country in Tuesday's issue of The Wall Street Journal.

Anne Marie Chaker, a reporter for The Wall Street Journal, said she looked at all kinds of schools — big, small, public and private — and explored characteristics such as accreditation, facilities and services. After many months of research, UNC showed itself as one of the top providers in the nation.

"I was impressed by the diversity of services offered at UNC," Chaker said. "They have amazing sports medicine services run by an orthopedic (doctor) and a women's health clinic run by an (obstetrician-gynecologist)."

"I also thought it was good that

the health center is open late (until 11 p.m. during the week) and that there are also weekend hours available to students," she said.

SHS Director Bob Wirag said he was pleasantly surprised by UNC's national ranking.

"We offer students kind of a one-stop shop," Wirag said. "We can't do it all, but we provide most services most students need most of the time."

Nationally accredited since 1986, UNC's student health care system offers services including rehabilitation, sports medicine, dermatology, women's health and others.

Also available is a mental health

unit — Counseling and Psychological Service — equipped with two psychiatrists, psychologists and social workers.

There also is an in-house radiology lab and a pharmacy included in the facility, and UNC Hospitals is right next door.

Chaker said one thing she believed to be very interesting during her research was the diversity she found among the health care systems of different colleges.

"There are some colleges that only have two nurses, and then there are schools like UNC which offer a wide variety," she said.

Wirag said he understands the differences Chaker found. "I think she realized how diverse the pro-

grams and services are at schools and from that decided that ours stacked up exceptionally well," he said.

And while budget woes might have health care services at other state-supported schools reeling from cutbacks, Wirag said the fact that UNC health care is an auxiliary operation somewhat insulates it against those financial difficulties.

"SHS is 60 percent supported by student fees paid every semester," Wirag said. "The balance is made up on charges for services. No tax money or tuition money goes toward health care here."

Wirag said students should feel ownership of the system's ranking. "Our active student population has made it possible for the services to be what they are," he said. "Students should be proud of the recognition we are receiving."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

## CALENDAR

### Today

8:30 a.m. — The UNC School of Law is hosting a free conference titled, "Separation of Church and States: An Examination of State Constitutional Limits on

Government Funding for Religious Organizations."

noon — As part of Women's Week, a discussion will focus on whether it's possible to be both a domestic goddess and a feminist, the politics of housework, media

portrayals of women and the definition and value of "women's work."

The event will be held in Student Union 2518A. For more Women's Week events, visit <http://www.unc.edu/womenscenter/events/ww2003.html>.

4 p.m. — UNC Jazz Combos will perform in 107 Hill Hall. This

concert is free and open to the public.

Information — Counseling and Psychological Service will be offering a six-week group for female survivors of sexual violence starting today. If you are interested, please call 966-3658.

## FOR THE RECORD

The March 24 article "Perruquet captures national title in 200 fly" incorrectly stated in the headline that swimmer Jessi Perruquet won the NCAA title for the 200-yard butterfly. Perruquet actually won the 200-yard freestyle title. The Daily Tar Heel regrets the error.

**THIS WEEKEND AT CAROLINA**

Saturday

**Women's Tennis vs. FSU**  
11am at Cone-Kenfield Tennis Center

**TAR HEEL INVITATIONAL**

**Softball vs. Hawaii**  
noon at UNC Softball Complex

**Softball vs. ECU**  
2pm at UNC Softball Complex

**Men's Lacrosse vs. Johns Hopkins**  
1pm at Fetzer Field  
Can Holder Day: First 400 fans receive a free Carolina Lacrosse can holder, courtesy of Great Atlantic Lacrosse

Sunday

**TAR HEEL INVITATIONAL**

**Softball vs. Virginia**  
noon at UNC Softball Complex

**Softball vs. TBA**  
2pm at UNC Softball Complex  
Tar Heel Invitational Finals

**VALTRES SPORTS SHORTS**  
Students & Faculty Admitted FREE w/ID!

**The Daily Tar Heel**

P.O. Box 3257, Chapel Hill, NC 27515  
Kim Minugh, Editor, 962-4086  
Advertising & Business, 962-1163  
News, Features, Sports, 962-0245

One copy per person; additional copies may be purchased at The Daily Tar Heel for \$.25 each.  
© 2003 DTH Publishing Corp.  
All rights reserved

**Get Ready for Spring**

Last chance for \$1 enrollment or 2 for 1 special\*

\*available for the first 50 people

**CALL NOW! 960-9910**  
503 W. Main Street, Carrboro, NC

**AG FITNESS**  
Your 24-Hour Health & Fitness Club

**AFRICAN NIGHT 2003**  
March 29, 6-9pm  
Hanes Art Center Auditorium

**GENERATION NEXT: A NEW BEGINNING**

An educational evening for the entire family!  
authentic African cuisine • African poetry and literature • traditional dances • live dramas and skits • beautiful native attire • step performance

Tickets: In advance \$3 dinner, \$5 show  
At the door \$3 dinner, \$6 show

Presented by **O.A.S.I.S.**

No other restaurant measures up.

Come experience the Melting Pot Restaurant. Here you'll enjoy the finest in four-course fondue dinners, fabulous dipping sauces, great wines, private tables and a relaxed atmosphere that's perfect for any occasion. For reservations, call (919) 878-0477.

**The Melting Pot**  
a fondue restaurant  
Dip into something different!  
3100 Wake Forest Rd., Raleigh  
[www.meltingpot.com](http://www.meltingpot.com)

**OLD PEOPLE** *stooping backs*  
*cranky*  
*dirty old men*

We're all familiar with these stereotypes of aging. But is this a fair representation of aging?

The UNC-CH Interdisciplinary Certificate in Aging announces a campus-wide student competition:  
**The Beauty of Aging Unveiled**

Awards: first place, \$350; second place, \$250; third place, \$150; honorable mention, \$50

Entries due by March 31, 2002.  
For details and application form, please visit <http://www.aging.unc.edu/certificate/beautyofaging.pdf>